

subpart) indicates a clear probability that the employee played a major role in the cause or severity of the accident/incident; and

(iii) The accident/incident actually occurred during the employee's duty tour.

An employee who has been transported to receive medical care is not released from duty for purposes of this section. Nothing in this section prohibits the subsequent testing of an employee who has failed to remain available for testing as required (i.e., who is absent without leave); but subsequent testing does not excuse such refusal by the employee timely to provide the required specimens.

(c) *Place of sample collection.* (1) Employees shall be transported to an independent medical facility where the samples shall be obtained. The railroad shall pre-designate for such testing one or more such facilities in reasonable proximity to any location where the railroad conducts operations. Designation shall be made on the basis of the willingness of the facility to conduct sample collection and the ability of the facility to complete sample collection promptly, professionally, and in accordance with pertinent requirements of this part. In all cases blood shall be drawn only by a qualified medical professional or by a qualified technician subject to the supervision of a qualified medical professional.

(2) In the case of an injured employee, the railroad shall request the treating medical facility to obtain the samples.

(d) *Obtaining cooperation of facility.* (1) In seeking the cooperation of a medical facility in obtaining a sample under this subpart, the railroad shall, as necessary, make specific reference to the requirements of this subpart.

(2) If an injured employee is unconscious or otherwise unable to evidence consent to the procedure and the treating medical facility declines to obtain blood samples after having been acquainted with the requirements of this subpart, the railroad shall immediately notify FRA by toll free telephone (800-424-0201), stating the employee's name, the medical facility, its location, the name of the appropriate decisional authority at the medical facility, and the

telephone number at which that person can be reached. FRA will then take appropriate measures to assist in obtaining the required sample.

(e) *Discretion of physician.* Nothing in this subpart shall be construed to limit the discretion of a physician to determine whether drawing a blood sample is consistent with the health of an injured employee or an employee afflicted by any other condition that may preclude drawing the specified quantity of blood.

[54 FR 53259, Dec. 27, 1989, as amended at 55 FR 22793, June 4, 1990; 59 FR 7460, Feb. 15, 1994]

§219.205 Sample collection and handling.

(a) *General.* Urine and blood samples shall be obtained, marked, preserved, handled, and made available to FRA consistent with the requirements of this subpart, and the technical specifications set forth in appendix C to this part.

(b) *Information requirements.* In order to process samples, analyze the significance of laboratory findings, and notify the railroads and employees of test results, it is necessary to obtain basic information concerning the accident/incident and any treatment administered after the accident/incident. Accordingly, the railroad representative shall complete the information required by FRA Form 6180.73 (revised) for shipping with the samples. Each employee subject to testing shall cooperate in completion of the required information on FRA Form 6180.74 (revised) for inclusion in the shipping kit and processing of the samples. The railroad representative shall request an appropriate representative of the medical facility to complete the remaining portion of the information on each Form 6180.74 (revised). One Form 6180.73 (revised) shall be forwarded in the shipping kit with each group of samples. One Form 6180.74 (revised) shall be forwarded in the shipping kit for each employee who provides samples.

(c) *Shipping kit.* (1) FRA and the laboratory designated in appendix B to this part make available for purchase a limited number of standard shipping kits for the purpose of routine handling of toxicological samples under this

subpart. Whenever possible, samples shall be placed in the shipping kit prepared for shipment according to the instructions provided in the kit and appendix C. Specifications for kits are contained in the Field Manual.

(2) Kits may be ordered directly from the laboratory designated in appendix B to this part.

(3) FRA maintains a limited number of kits at its field offices. A Class III railroad may utilize kits in FRA possession, rather than maintaining such kits on its property.

(d) *Shipment.* Samples shall be shipped as soon as possible by pre-paid air express or air freight (or other means adequate to ensure delivery within twenty-four (24) hours from time of shipment) to the laboratory designated in appendix B to this part. Where express courier pickup is available, the railroad shall request the medical facility to transfer the sealed toxicology kit directly to the express courier for transportation. If courier pickup is not available at the medical facility where the samples are collected or for any other reason prompt transfer by the medical facility cannot be assured, the railroad shall promptly transport the sealed shipping kit holding the samples to the most expeditious point of shipment via air express, air freight or equivalent means. The railroad shall maintain and document secure chain of custody of the kit from release by the medical facility to delivery for transportation, as described in appendix C.

[54 FR 53259, Dec. 27, 1989, as amended at 59 FR 7460, Feb. 15, 1994]

§ 219.206 FRA access to breath test results.

Documentation of breath test results shall be made available to FRA consistent with the requirements of this subpart, and the technical specifications set forth in appendix C to this part.

[59 FR 7461, Feb. 15, 1994]

§ 219.207 Fatality.

(a) In the case of an employee fatality in an accident or incident described in § 219.201, body fluid and/or tissue samples shall be obtained from the re-

mains of the employee for toxicological testing. To ensure that samples are timely collected, the railroad shall immediately notify the appropriate local authority (such as a coroner or medical examiner) of the fatality and the requirements of this subpart, making available the shipping kit and requesting the local authority to assist in obtaining the necessary body fluid or tissue samples. The railroad shall also seek the assistance of the custodian of the remains, if a person other than the local authority.

(b) If the local authority or custodian of the remains declines to cooperate in obtaining the necessary samples, the railroad shall immediately notify FRA by toll free telephone (800-424-0201) providing the following information:

- (1) Date and location of the accident or incident;
- (2) Railroad;
- (3) Name of the deceased;
- (4) Name and telephone number of custodian of the remains; and
- (5) Name and telephone number of local authority contacted.

(c) A coroner, medical examiner, pathologist, Aviation Medical Examiner, or other qualified professional is authorized to remove the required body fluid and/or tissue samples from the remains on request of the railroad or FRA pursuant to this part; and, in so acting, such person is the delegate of the Administrator under section 208 of the Federal Railroad Safety Act of 1970 (45 U.S.C. 437) (but not the agent of the Secretary for purposes of the Federal Tort Claims Act). Such qualified professional may rely upon the representations of the railroad or FRA representative with respect to the occurrence of the event requiring that toxicological tests be conducted and the coverage of the deceased employee under these rules.

(d) Appendix C to this part specifies body fluid and/or tissue samples required for toxicological analysis in the case of a fatality.

§ 219.209 Reports of tests and refusals.

(a)(1) A railroad that has experienced one or more events for which samples were obtained shall provide prompt telephonic notification summarizing such events. Notification shall be provided